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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
Washington

F.S.
W-7

February 13, 1926

FOREIGN NEWS ON WALNUTS

DECEMBER AND JANUARY REPORTS FROM FOREIGN WALNUT DISTRICTS

France:(Bordeaux District)

Although the French walnut crop was late, no difficulty was experienced in disposing of the abundant supply of table varieties in home and foreign markets, according to Consul Lucien Memminger at Bordeaux, in a report received in the Department of Agriculture. Shipments of unshelled walnuts to the United States from the Bordeaux District during October, November and December 1925 amounted to 3,753,000 pounds. Exports of shelled nuts amounted to 3,468,000 pounds. These quantities were about equal to the amounts shipped during the same months the previous year. The crop of cracking varieties, which was reported as about four times that of last year has turned out to be of rather poorer quality than expected earlier in the season. Because of the size of the crop difficulty was experienced in properly storing the nuts on producers' estates, and there was also some dropping of nuts before maturity. Although a large proportion of the nuts are not up to standard requirements for "Extra Halves", the supply of "Extra Halves" is thought to be fully normal because of the large size of the crop. The market was reported firm at the end of December with no apparent tendency toward a lowering of prices at that time.

China:

Considerable stocks of walnuts in the shell are being held at Tienstin with practically no demand being experienced from home markets, according to Vice Consul Granville Woodward at Tienstin, in a report dated December 14, 1925. Local holders, he states, were prepared at that time to offer walnuts in the shell at almost any price, with no buyers in evidence.

Arrivals of walnuts at Tienstin from the interior during September, October and November totaled 65,020 piculs (8,667,000 pounds) compared with 50,765 piculs (6,767,000 pounds) during the same period of 1924. Exports from Tienstin during the three months of 1925 approximated 38,000 piculs (5,065,000 pounds) compared with 57,294 piculs (7,637,000 pounds) during the same months of the previous year.

Italy:

The 1925 walnut crop in the Naples district is unofficially estimated to have been about the same as that of 1924, when the total production of southern Italy was 19,780 short tons, according to Consul Harold D. Finley at Naples. Production for all of Italy in 1924 was 35,264 tons. Reports on the 1925 Italian crop so far this season have indicated that it would exceed that of 1924.

Exports of walnuts to the United States from the Naples consular district since September 1, which may be assumed to be new crop nuts, have been as follows compared with 1924 (figures in pounds):

Month	1924	1925
September	1,263,216	1,515,662
October	5,498,303	6,307,915
November	3,982,092	1,291,103
December	266,779	133,207
Total	11,010,386	9,247,877

The smaller exports this year, according to the Consul, are attributed to the larger crop in California and the high prices demanded at Naples during most of the season. The above figures bring up to date the table in our report F.S.#N-5, dated October 1, 1925.

Rumania:

The latest reports from Rumania confirm the estimate of a crop of about 60 per cent of that harvested in 1924, reported previously by Consul Haven at Constantza, and published by the Department on October 15. Consul E. E. Palmer in a recent report advises that the crop is estimated at 11,000 short tons compared with a production of about 18,000 tons in 1924. The quality of the crop, aside from the small size of the nuts, is considered good, and practically the entire crop is expected to be available for export.

Portugal:

The Portuguese walnut crop of 1925 is reported to be much inferior to the crop obtained in 1924, both as to volume and as to quality, according to Consul H. T. Mooers at Lisbon.

Persia:

The 1925 Persian walnut crop is estimated to be about 3,500 short tons or about 30 per cent less than the 1924 crop of approximately 5,500 short tons, according to American Consul Karl de G. MacVitty at Teheran. This year's crop is only fair in quality and stocks carried over from last year are small.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
Washington

June 2, 1926.

F.S.
W-8

FOREIGN NEWS ON NUTS

THE WALNUT SITUATION IN FRANCE

It is as yet too early to make any estimates of the coming walnut crop in France but conditions were generally favorable for tree crops up till the middle of May, and in the Bordeaux region, prospects point to a good yield, according to a cable received in the Department of Agriculture from Consul Lucien Memminger at Bordeaux. The recent cold and storms in France are reported not to have done any damage in the Bordeaux region, while almonds and olives in other sections were little affected, only peaches and cherries being seriously damaged.

Fairly large stocks of nuts are still on hand in some sections, but the quality of much of these is too poor for export to American markets and it does not appear likely, therefore, that exports to the United States will be large during the balance of the season. American demand for this year's French crop has not been particularly good because of the inferior quality, according to consular reports. Prices have shown a declining tendency throughout the season.

Bordeaux District:

It seems likely that the walnut season will end in the Bordeaux district with shipments of shelled nuts to the United States about normal in quantity but a good deal less than shipments during the same period last year, according to Consul Memminger at Bordeaux. Shipments were proceeding about as usual early in April but the bulk of the business for the 1925-26 season had been transacted. Only small quantities were expected to be stored in refrigerators during the summer months, says the Consul. Business was being conducted on a current order basis with fresh preparation of supplies as new orders were received.

Exports of shelled walnuts to the United States from the Bordeaux district during the three months ending March 31 amounted to 5,019,203 pounds, or a decrease of 287,219 pounds compared with the exports for the corresponding period of 1924-25. A shortage of nuts of the desired standard, particularly as regards "extra halves", was said to be the reason for the decreased exports, as the 1925-26 crop yielded a large percentage of yellow and brown kernels.

Grenoble District:

While the 1925 crop in the Grenoble district was abundant in quantity ("mayettes" reached 100,000 sacks of 110 pounds each as compared with 65,000 in 1924, while of "chabertes" there was about a normal crop of about 30,000 cases of 55 pounds each), it was not satisfactory in quality, according to a report from Consul H. H. Watson at Lyons, and

there now remains in the hands of the Syndicates and of the growers some 25,000 sacks of "mayettes". The supply of "chabertes" is completely exhausted, however, whereas at this period of the year there are usually 15,000 to 20,000 cases in cold storage.

The principal market for "mayettes" in the shell is the United States, but this market took much less than usual the past season. The lower quality of Grenoble nuts this year was probably the principal factor, according to the Consul.

The walnut trade of the Grenoble district, says Consul Watson, may be divided into three parts, first, the sale of green walnuts, second, the sale of dry walnuts in the shell, third, the sale of walnut halves or shelled walnuts. Green nuts are sold at the beginning of the season in sacks containing 22 pounds each, London taking the larger part of them, although Paris and some of the larger French cities also handle these nuts. The principal market for nuts in the shell is the United States, although considerable quantities also go to England, Germany, Belgium and the Scandinavian countries. Considerable quantities of "chabertes" are exported but French consumption is also heavy.

Limoges District:

There was practically no exportation of unshelled walnuts from the Limoges district, either to the United States or European markets during the first three months of 1926 because stocks were exhausted, according to a report from Consul Howard F. Withey at Limoges. The exportation of walnut kernels, on the other hand, was very active, although the quality of the product left a good deal to be desired. The Consul indicates that second grade nuts are abundant but that a shortage of high grade shelled nuts is expected, while the demand for the latter article seems to be growing more active.

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Bureau of Agricultural Economics
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September 3, 1926

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W-9

FOREIGN NEWS ON NUTS

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EUROPEAN WALNUT PROSPECTS

Rumania

Excellent weather conditions during the spring and summer has assured a large crop of walnuts in Rumania, according to a report from Vice-Consul Arnold at Bucharest. The quality of the crop will depend upon whether or not the weather between August 15 and September 15 is sufficiently dry to permit of the proper maturing of the kernels. According to trade estimates the walnut crop this year may be placed conservatively at between 55,000,000 and 65,000,000 pounds as compared with between 40,000,000 and 45,000,000 pounds in 1925. Practically all of the crop is available for export.

Contracts for small quantities of the new crop were obtainable at 3.7¢ to 4.9¢ per pound on August 7 at Bucharest but Vice-Consul Arnold reports that dealers believe it will be difficult to find large quantities of walnuts at less than 6¢ per pound. This belief is based largely on the expected shortage of French walnuts which compete with the Rumanian product in foreign markets.

A probable feature of the Rumanian export trade with the United States in walnuts during the coming season is expected to be the almost complete disappearance of shipments of unshelled nuts, states Vice-Consul Arnold. Generally speaking American walnut importers prefer to do business with well established French and Italian exporters and avail themselves of Rumanian supplies only when there is a considerable price advantage. Since Italy exports large quantities of unshelled nuts to this country and there is expected to be an excellent crop it is believed that few unshelled nuts will be taken from Rumania. On the other hand France ordinarily exports large amounts of shelled nuts but the crop in that country is said to be poor and consequently an increased demand for Rumanian shelled nuts is expected.

It is believed that the Rumanian crop will be ready to ship about the middle of October but in view of the fact that the trip from Rumanian ports to the United States requires from three to four weeks, it is not expected that any shipments of the new crops will arrive in the United States in time for the Thanksgiving season. In the light of present prospects, however, they may be anticipated in increasing quantities thereafter.

France

The cold and rainy weather during the month of May is said to have had a disastrous effect upon the 1926 walnut crop of the Bordeaux region in France, states Vice-Consul Child at Bordeaux, in a report dated August 10. This cold weather, in conjunction with the excessively hot weather lately prevailing is causing many nuts to fall before maturity. The crop this year is expected to be from one-fourth to one-third of that of 1925 for shelled walnuts and one-fifth to one-tenth of last year's harvest for Cornes and Marbots. The 1925 walnut crop of the Bordeaux region has been estimated at 160,000 sacks (110 pounds each) and 120,000 cases (55 lbs. each).

Stocks on hand are very low amounting to only about 5,000 cases warehoused in Bordeaux. No prices are being established for future delivery on account of the uncertain exchange rates. The crop this year is expected to be late, about October 20th for unshelled nuts. Cracking will not start until about November 20th.

Italy

Favorable weather conditions in Southern Italy have assured a crop both large in quantity and of good quality according to trade reports received in Rumania and forwarded by Vice-Consul Arnold at Bucharest. The crop promises to be considerably better than average and will be dry enough to provide for early shipments well in advance of the Thanksgiving season.

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F.S.
W-10

September 21, 1926

FOREIGN NEWS ON NUTS

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WALNUT SITUATION IN SOUTHERN ITALY

The 1926 walnut crop of Southern Italy is reported as being very good and of full normal size, according to a report received in the Department of Agriculture from Consul W. H. Schott at Naples. The trees are in excellent condition and the continued rains have greatly benefitted the nuts by providing nourishment and preventing worm infestations. This circumstance, however, has delayed the crop by about two weeks, says the Consul. Declared exports to the United States from the Naples district in 1925 amounted to 10,192,000 lbs..

Walnuts grown in the Naples Consular District are of three classes, viz: Sorrento, No. 2 Mountain or Paesani, and Wild Mountain. Sorrento nuts are thin shelled and are considered the best. They are grown from grafted trees and are used without preparation. The quality of the 1926 crop is good but the nuts will require an additional period of dry weather before they mature. No. 2 mountain, or Paesani walnuts have a smoother and more uniform shell than the Mountain variety. They are usually skinned and bleached and used as table nuts. The quality of the 1926 crop is good. The Wild Mountain variety is not grown in large quantities in Southern Italy and figures little in exports to the United States.

It was believed that the Sorrento nuts would be ready for harvest during the last two weeks of September and that shipments would begin in volume by the end of September, the bulk of the crop being exported during the first part of October. The Paesani crop was to be harvested from the end of August to September 10. Mountain walnuts were not to be harvested, says the Consul, until late in September. Total stocks of walnuts in Naples amount to only about 660,000 lbs. unshelled basis, says the Consul. The quality of these stocks is said to be poor.

Exports during 1925 amounted to the equivalent of 61,173 bags of 220 lbs. each or approximately 13,486,000 lbs. The countries of destination were as follows:

EXPORTS OF WALNUTS FROM NAPLES - 1925

Exported to	1,000 lbs	Exported to	1,000 lbs
United States	11,706	France	65
United Kingdom	1,043	Tunis	47
Brazil	242	Uruguay	31
Argentina	169	Others	76
Australia	107	Total	13,486

Source: Official Italian statistics.

The United States supplied by far the largest market for the walnut exports of the Naples district during 1925 but owing to the short crop in France and Yugoslavia it is believed that there will be larger shipments of the present crop to Great Britain, Belgium, Germany, Switzerland and Holland, according to the Consul's report.

Declared exports to the United States for the past four years and the first seven months of 1926 were as follows:

Year	Pounds	Value
1922	7,494,995	$ 782,315
1923	9,938,553	1,056,795
1924	11,158,265	1,633,663
1925	10,191,541	1,621,181
1926 (first seven months)	592,565	68,531

Buyers report that some purchases have been made for export to the United States at the following prices c.i.f. New York:

Sorrento	$15.60	-	$16.80	per bag of 110 lbs
Paesani	12.00	-	13.20	"
Wild Mountain	9.60	-	10.32	"

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
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Washington

F.S.
W-11

October 25, 1926.

U.S. Department of Agriculture

FOREIGN NEWS ON NUTS

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FRENCH WALNUT CROP POOR

The 1926 walnut crop of the Grenoble district of France is now estimated at not more than 50,000 sacks of 25 kilos each (2,755,750 pounds), according to a report from Consul Watson at Lyon. The shortage for the district is reported to be chiefly in Mayettes, while Parisiennes and Franquettes will probably produce a two-thirds crop, the Consul states. The production of Chabertes is expected to prove smaller than previously estimated. Reports from the Isere, the Drome, the Alpes and the Savoie indicate that it will not greatly exceed one-third of the 1925 crop. All three varieties of the Grenoble crop are small, this being especially so in the case of Mayettes. The crop is later than usual.

Unshelled nuts at the beginning of September brought from $14.85 to $16.20 per 100 pounds c.i.f. New York. Later prices advanced to $17.25 to $17.58 per 100 pounds (exchange rate of Sept. 15). The Consul reports that several hundred cases of walnut halves (Chabertes) have been sold for November and December shipment at $54.68 per 100 pounds c.i.f. New York, on the basis of exchange rate of September 15. Due to shortage in other regions, English buyers are said to be offering high prices in the Grenoble district.

The walnut crop of all France, according to an earlier report from Consul Memminger at Bordeaux, is expected to be exceptionally small in quantity this year. Reports from field observers of local exporting firms are very pessimistic and although unofficial, give some idea of the state of the crop about to be harvested. Estimates of total production vary, ranging from 1/3 to 1/6 of a normal crop. Marbots are expected to amount to 1/7 to 1/12 of normal, according to the views of the different firms. Estimates for the crop of Cornes are slightly better, ranging from 1/3 to 1/5 of normal while nuts for cracking are expected to reach 1/7 to 1/10 of normal production. The crop of Chabertes is also reported to be small. The poor state of the crop is attributed to unfavorable, cold, wet weather during the early months of the season which caused many of the small nuts to fall.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
Washington

F.S.
W-12

December 13, 1926

FOREIGN NEWS ON NUTS

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FRENCH WALNUT CROP PROSPECTS

It is believed that exports of walnuts from France this season will be the smallest on record because of the poor crop, states Consul Lucien Memminger at Bordeaux. There have as yet been no exports of new crop walnuts in the shell from Bordeaux to the United States and the opinion is being expressed locally that such exports will be very small throughout the season. In normal years the exports of walnuts in the shell from Bordeaux to the United States for the Thanksgiving and Christmas holiday trade are very large and practically all shipments are made as soon as the new crop is ready, in October, November and December.

Exports of unshelled walnuts to the United States from Bordeaux during the 1925-26 season amounted to 4,295,000 pounds valued at $399,700, of which 1,189,000 pounds valued at $113,000 were declared in October; 2,358,000 pounds valued at $212,000 in November, and most of the balance in December. As regards total exports of unshelled walnuts from Bordeaux this season, it is reported that approximately 7,000 to 8,000 bags of 110 pounds each have been shipped to Germany, the Baltic countries and England, and a few hundred bags to Canada up to about the middle of November. In normal years a total of 150,000 to 200,000 bags of walnuts in the shell are shipped to all countries during the season.

Failure of Crop in Bordeaux Region

Long established merchants state that there has never been such a complete failure of the crop in the Bordeaux area as this year. Due to frosts and other unfavorable conditions during the spring and early summer, the trees failed to give anywhere near a normal yield and it is estimated that the total crop of the region is not more than 10 per cent of a normal year. The production of "Marbot" and "Corne" table walnuts was very short and the supply available for export is extremely limited. The tendency in the local trade is to advise merchants not to export table walnuts this season but to hold them for sale to the packers of shelled walnuts who will have need of all available supplies.

Exceptional Prices for this Year's Crop

Although no official prices are issued for"Marbots" and "Cornes", it is estimated that the present price of "Marbots" at Bordeaux is about $19.67 per bag of 110 pounds. This would mean that in order to sell at only a moderate profit to the New York market, Bordeaux merchants would have to quote approximately $23.10 to $23.95 per bag, cost and freight New York. This is more than double the prices quoted at the same date last year. Similarly, as regards "Cornes", whereas they could be bought

at $9.74 per bag at Bordeaux at the opening of the 1925-26 season, the price of this year's crop was $14.70 at Bordeaux station or about $18.38 for New York, if quoted at all. The Bordeaux Chamber of Commerce on November 13 estimated the price of Bordeaux Extra Halves, 1926 crop, at $147 per case of 220 pounds. At the beginning of the 1925-26 season, French packers bought walnuts for cracking at $5.54 to $6.65 per bag of 110 pounds. They were obliged to pay $12.50 to $13.25 at the beginning of the present season.

Trade Estimates of French Walnut Crop

While it is not possible to estimate accurately the size of the 1926 crop for all of France, it is stated by fairly good sources that the total of all varieties is not more than 120,000 bags of 110 pounds each, as compared with a yield of about 900,000 bags in good years.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
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December 22, 1926.

FOREIGN NEWS ON NUTS

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THE RUMANIAN WALNUT SITUATION

The walnut crop of Rumania for 1926 will not exceed 33,000,000 pounds, according to reliable trade reports, states Vice Consul G. C. Arnold at Bucharest, in a report dated November 26, 1926. Since the estimated consumption of walnuts in Rumania is about 7,000,000 pounds, this would leave about 25,000,000 pounds of walnuts for export. The carryover from the 1925 crop was fairly large this year as is indicated by the fact that 520,300 pounds of unshelled walnuts of the 1925 crop were exported after October 10 this year and coincident with the first shipments of the 1926 crop.

Prices at the beginning of the present season varied from 3.8 to 4.7 cents per pound. Prices soon rose, however, upon assurance of a firm demand from abroad and early in October were quoted at 5.2 to 5.7 cents per pound. In the latter part of November it was practically impossible to find walnuts on the farms and the few available were quoted at 7.7 cents per pound.

Heavy exportations have been made to France and Germany, and this, together with a strong demand from the United States, makes it appear likely that there will be few unshelled walnuts available for shipment after January, 1927. Shipments of unshelled walnuts are heaviest from October 15 to December 15 while shipments of shelled walnuts usually begin early in December and reach their highest point in February or March. Extremely favorable weather conditions in November made it possible to dry the walnuts in time for shipments before November 15 of 13,092 bags of the 1926 crop to the United States. Of this total 4,500 bags were expected to reach New York in time for the Thanksgiving trade and the remainder in ample time for the Christmas holidays. Practically all of these walnuts were sold C.I.F. New York and were shipped either direct from Constantza or via Hamburg. The C.I.F. New York price of these shipments varied from 10 1/2 to 14 cents per pound, the majority of the walnuts being ungraded and unbleached at 10 1/2 cents per pound. The following table shows the exports of walnuts from Rumania to the United States for 1925 and up to November 15 of this year.

WALNUTS: Exports from Rumania to the United States

Period	Unshelled		Shelled	
	Pounds	Dollars	Pounds	Dollars
1925				
January to June	555,592	67,016	239,119	58,837
July to December ...	2,034,495	204,070	114,081	18,003
1926				
January to June	152,462	7,911	406,658	82,020
July to November 15.	1,736,733	175,883	58,092	17,032

Source: United States Consular Statistics.

The following itemized statements of the estimated cost involved in preparing and shipping 1,000 bags (50,000 kgs. or 110,230 pounds) of walnuts from an interior village in Rumania to New York, via Constantza, is based on information supplied by two leading Rumanian walnut exporters and reported by Vice Consul Arnold.

COST OF PLACING RUMANIAN WALNUTS IN NEW YORK

Items of cost	Lei	Dollars converted at rate of 180 lei to $1.00
1,000 bags (50,000 kgs. or 110,230 pounds) of walnuts sold F.O.B. farm at 23 lei per kg. (5.8 cents per pound)	1,150,000	6,389
1,000 new bags	70,000	389
Local labor, drayage, etc.	25,000	139
Freight to Constantza	125,000	694
Loss by theft, baksheesh, etc., en route	30,000	167
Labor, baksheesh, drayage incidental to loading ship at Constantza	25,000	139
Export tax at 4 lei per kilogram	200,000	1,111
Port and municipal charges	25,000	139
Net cost of merchandise at Constantza	1,650,000	9,161
20 per cent profit		1,833
Ocean freight Constantza - New York at $18 per ton		900
Sold C.I.F. New York		11,900
Per 100 pounds C.I.F. New York		10.89

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